Technical education to children of labourers

†969. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated or proposed to provide technical education to the children of labourers working in the organised and unorganised sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) DGE&T under the Ministry of Labour & Employment is implementing Craftsmen Training Scheme under which Children of 14 years & above including children of labourers may join training courses run in the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres spread throughout the country. Presently, training is being imparted in 110 trades in 5465 Industrial Training Institutes/Centres.

Children of Labourers may also join training courses under Skill Development Initiative Scheme in 211 Modular Employable Skill courses and under Apprenticeship Training Scheme in 23,800 industrial establishments in 187 designated trades.

Unemployment amongst women labour force

970. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that working poverty is getting increasingly feminised, according to the Global Employment Trends for Women Brief 2007;

(b) if so, the current trend of unemployment amongst women labour force engaged in agriculture and other activities; and

(c) whether Government has gone through the latest data released by ILO in this regard and if so, the reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The main sources for poverty statistics are income and expenditure data collected through national household surveys. Such information is inadequate for measuring gender differences, because it concerns entire household rather than individuals. As a result, poverty data is not disaggregated by sex, making it difficult to estimate poverty among women that work. The main findings in Global Employment Trends for Women Brief, March 2007 are given in the statement (*See* below).

(b) In India, as per last two quinquennial rounds of surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on employment and unemployment, overall unemployment rate on Current Daily Status basis for the female increased from 7.44 percent in 1999-2000 (55th round) to 9.37 percent in 2004-05 (61st round). During this period, employment opportunities for female in agriculture sector increased from 61.00 million to 66.94 million.

(c) The Report on Global Employment Trends for Women brief, March 2007 does not mention anything specific to India and findings are generic in nature. However, various programmes have been taken up by the Government about India for increasing the women participation rate, such as National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Main findings of Global Employment Trends for Women

The Main findings of Global Employment Trends for Women Brief, March 2007 are as follows:—

* In absolute numbers, more women than ever before are participating in labour markets worldwide. They are either in work or actively looking for a job.
* During the past ten years, the labour force participation rate (the share of working-age women who work or are seeking work) stopped growing, with many regions registering declines. This reversal is notable, even though it partially reflects greater participation of young women in education.
* More women than ever before are actually in work. The female share of total employment stayed almost unchanged at 40 percent in 2006 (from 39.7 per cent 10 years ago).
* At the same time, more women than ever before are unemployed, with the rate of women's unemployment (6.6 per cent) higher than that of men (6.1 per cent).
* Women are more likely to work in low productivity jobs in agriculture and services. Women's share in industrial employment is much smaller than men and has decreased over the last ten years.
* The poorer the region, the greater the likelihood that women work as unpaid contributing family members or low-income own-account workers. Female contributing family workers, in particular, are not likely to be economically independent.
* The step from unpaid contributing family workers or low-paid own-account worker to wage and salaried employment is a major step toward freedom and self-determination for many women. The share of women in wage and salaried work grew during the past ten years from 42.9 per cent in 1996 to 47.9 per cent in 2006. However, especially in the world's poorest regions, this share is till smaller for women than for men.
* Young women are more likely to be able to read and write than 10 years ago. But there is still a gap between female and male education levels. And there is considerable doubt that women get the same chance as men to develop their skills throughout their working lives.

New law for child labour

†971. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that child labour is going on unchecked in all metropolitan cities including capital, Delhi;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the present law of the country is incapable of stopping these who employ child labourers and there is a need to make changes in it;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.